

# Reading Group Guide

## **Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me The Teacher I Never Had**

By Brad Cohen with Lisa Wysocky

1. What did you know about Tourette syndrome before reading *Front of the Class*?
2. Do you personally know someone who has Tourette's or has a loved one with Tourette's? How does their condition evidence itself? What effect does it seem to have in that person's daily living?
3. Has reading this book made you look at people with disabilities any differently (or, to look at your own disability any differently)? What can you do to help others with disabilities?
4. Did you identify with someone in Brad Cohen's life, and if so, who (Brad, his mother or father, his brother, his friends, his school principal or other teachers, someone else)?
5. What do you think Brad's students learn about life when they have Brad as a teacher?
6. Brad started taking on leadership roles after becoming a member of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. What skills did this help him develop, and how else did it help him?
7. Interviews are tough enough without tics and prejudgments getting in the way. Do you have an unhappy story where you experienced a similar closed-mindedness in a potential employer? How was your interview similar to or different from Brad's experiences?
8. Brad mentions several times in his life when he has depended on the American Disabilities Act, or at least shown his ADA card as backup. In what way(s) has the ADA been helpful to Brad, in your opinion?
9. How has Brad been a good citizen or helpful to others?
10. Name five adjectives, or describing words, you would say belong in a description of Brad Cohen as an individual, as a teacher, or as a friend.
11. While his book was still being written, Brad met the woman he eventually proposed marriage to. He proposed just before the book was published, while they were taking a ride in a hot-air balloon. How does this event "fit" the Brad you came to know in the book?
12. What do you think Brad's coauthor, Lisa Wysocky, may have contributed to the book?
13. What audience(s) do you think *Front of the Class* is written for? Do you think you'll be recommending the book to others to read, and if so, why do you think they would benefit from reading the book?
14. Was Brad Cohen's story inspirational to you personally? If yes, in what way?

For more info on Brad go to: [www.classperformance.com](http://www.classperformance.com)